

**Milford Conservation Commission
Meeting Minutes August 8, 2013
7:00 Selectmen's Meeting Room**

Call to Order at 7:05

Present: Members: Audrey Fraizer, Chair; Hub Seward, V Chair; Andy Hughes, Andy Seale, Janet Urquhart. Alternate Members: Rodney Dellafelice, Chris Costantino. Excused: Becky Lorette, Kim Rimalover

Guests: Kathy Bauer, BOS Representative. Members of the public

Minutes approved: June minutes - on a motion by Janet, seconded by Andy H, unanimous approval to accept. July minutes – on a motion by Janet, seconded by Hub, unanimous approval to accept. Andy S and Rodney abstained since they didn't attend the meeting.

Appointment: Yvonne Beran discussion about her upcoming training with the NH Coverts program. Yvonne is attending the September NH Coverts Training Program. She wanted feedback from the Commission about possible properties to which she could apply her management training. After discussion, Hitchiner seems to be the best project for her. There is a diversity of habitat, especially the highly valuable field/forest edge habitat. Yvonne will meet with the Commission again in October after completing the training. She may have learned something that would guide her and the Commission to a different property. Yvonne will send a receipt for the payment she made for the background check required by the UNH Cooperative Extension Service.

Discussion

Item	Discussion	WWDW
1. 4 th Saturday hike on July 27 at Rotch WP. Leader for August 24 hike	There were 5 people and one dog in addition to Chris. Beaver activity has caused more sections of the trail to be flooded. We were unable, without getting very wet, to stay on the white trail along the pond. Needed to do the Brook Trail from the summit to get to the stone culvert. Nice walk. The August hike will be at Monson	Chris will verify this with Russ Dickerman and SPNHF. Audrey and Janet will attend.
2. Map 40-14 lot consolidation of Tucker Brook and Cote Deed	Chris talked to Guy Scaife, TA, who suggested a letter be drafted and sent to the Covells, the current residents. The purpose is to acknowledge that, altho' the lot number has changed; it hasn't changed the terms of the original deed, which is tied to a lot description and acreage. Hub is writing the letter.	Chris will send the draft letter to the Commission. Include the deed description.
3. Tucker Brook Town Forest Timber Harvest	Dan Reed is still working on prepping the timber sale that will happen on Dave Wheeler's property. There is a good chance that Dave's harvest will be completely separate from the Tucker Brook Sale; but Dan wants to have the perimeters clearly defined before proceeding with putting the sale out to bids and selecting a logger. Meanwhile, he is seeing a little improvement in the timber market which may work to our advantage.	Audrey will call Dave Wheeler to discuss his plans for his timber harvest
4. Neighborhood Overlay District Questionnaire	Members commented on the current version of the Open Space Conservation District Overlay. This opportunity to comment was a station of the Neighborhood Overlay District Open House on July 27 th .	Chris will take the comments to Jodie Levandowski, Town Planner.

5. Mack Easement	The Macks asked to cut some trees for cordwood. They were told to mark the trees that they want to cut and that the commission would come out to take a look. The trees are marked – site visit needs to be scheduled.	Site Walk August 27 th to check the marked trees
6. Cote Farm field mowing Map 40-13/14	Chris met Amy Covell, owner and resident, at the farm. She was unable to mow the fields last year, but intends to mow this year. It hasn't been a good year for mowing.	Chris sent an email to the Sareaults. Hub will incorporate this mowing into his letter to the Covells about the lot tax parcel number.
7. Mobility Device Policy (previously known as the ADA trails policy) and Trail Assessment Work sheet	Commission will review the Mobility Device Policy	Members will send their comments in by email by August 15. Chris will determine process for formal acceptance
8. OSCD work session report from Rodney and AndyH	Rodney and Andy H worked on the OSCD overlay. Further discussion is needed.	Chris will send the draft to the members for review. It is posted in Dropbox
9. Expo location	Hampshire Hills can't give us a March date – have a tentative permission with the Armory. What do we want to do? Rate at the Armory – potentially waived fee of \$175.00. But will have to pay \$50/hr. for the duration of event from setup to breakdown. The Middle School has the largest of the school gyms. We can try to reserve the gym 4 months in advance – November. We need to settle on a date – March 8 or 15.	Chris will contact the school in November for a March 8 date
10. Warrant Article discussion	Tentative December due date. Easement on Mile Slip property Easement on Hitchiner TF – consensus of the commission is that this is the priority property to get an easement on. Request for \$20,000 for the land fund	Chris will research surrounding properties at Mile Slip TF that have easement protection.
11. Interdepartmental review	Reviewed Map 44-10 (MacDonald's); 12-13-1 (DunkinDonuts West End); and 21-31-1 and 32-1 (St. Joe's Medical Facility)	44-10 – no comment 12-12-1 – no comment 21-31-1 – keep the proposed Stormwater features in place. Consider pervious pavement
12. Events	Pumpkin Festival – October 11-12 (Janet, Andy H, Andy S, Audrey, Chris available) Chamber of Commerce Expo October 17 (Audrey, Hub, Andy H and Chris) Ghost Train Rail Trail Race – October 26-27(Audrey, Chris)	Chris will collate who and when for each event
13. Hitchiner TF	The field grass is high and the trail is singletrack. What are the options to keep this trail open. P Amato is willing to recut the field in late August/early September	Chris will talk to DPW about keeping the trail open